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Peaks Island Star, 2021

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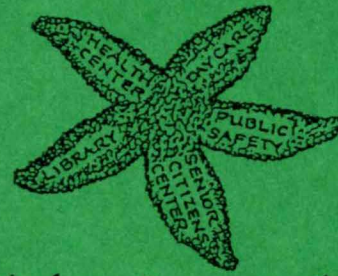
12-2021

Peaks Island Star : December 2021, Vol. 41, Issue 12

Service Agencies of the Island

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Peaks Island STAR



Newsletter of the Island's Service Agencies & other Community News

December 2021

Volume 41

Issue 12

December at the Peaks Island Branch Library -

129 Island Avenue * 207.766.5540 * peaks@portlib.org

Hours: Tuesday 1-7 pm; Wednesday 9am – noon; Friday 10 am – 4 pm; Saturday 9am – noon

Due to the holidays, the Library will be closed:
Friday & Saturday 12/24 & 12/25 and 12/31 & 1/1/22!

Face masks are required in the Community Building & Library.

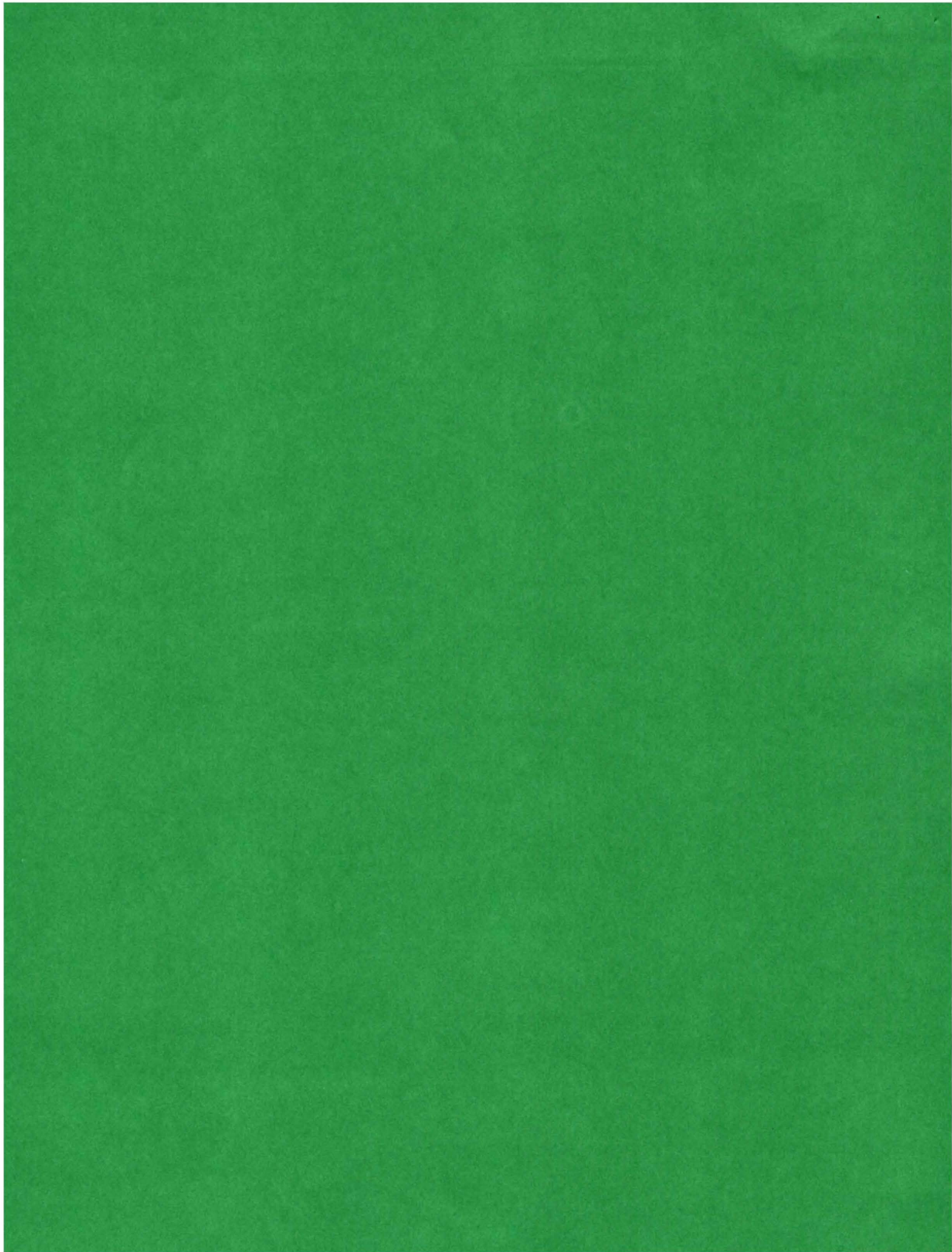
"This Island Life" an exhibit by islander, Heather Wasklewicz will continue through **January 15, 2022**. The exhibit is a collection of 16 photographs exploring the private and quiet moments of island life. All photos are available for purchase. 20 % of sales will be donated to the Library to support programming.

PPL Marketplace: We invite you to share your love of PPL with your favorite people and book lovers. For sale at the Library or online are: **Staff Holiday Cards** with original artwork and greetings from our staff; **"Favorite Books" Bookmarks** designed by islander Scott Kelley, **Barcode Tote Bags**; **PPL #BookFace Friday Postcards** from a selection of "winter" covers.

The **Adult Tuesdays Book Group** will meet on **December 14, from 7:00-8:00 pm**. We will be discussing *Code Name Helene* by Ariel Lawhon. Vaccinated people are welcome to meet in the Community Room where masks are required. Contact the Library for more information or to request a copy of the book. January's book is *No Man's Land* by Wendy Moore. **Sponsored by Friends of the Peaks Island Library.**

Looking for Middle-Schoolers who are interested in meeting once a month to talk about authors & book recommendations, play literary games, and have fun! The next meeting will be at the Library on Tuesday, December 28 from 5:45-6:45 pm.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S STAR: Saturday, December 25. Articles should be copy ready and may be placed in the Library Book Return or brought into the Library during our opening hours.



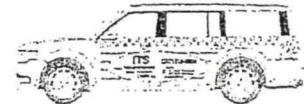
HOME START OPEN HOUSE

Our year round, affordable Accessory Dwelling Unit on the back of 18 Luther St. is **just about done**. A team of skilled volunteers captained by Chris Roberts has been working very hard to do finish all the end of project details so it can be ready for the new tenant in early December.

We'd like to invite the Peaks community to come take a look at an **Open House on Sunday, December 5 from 2:30 - 4 pm**. Please come and see what hard work and your support have built.

Hope to see you there !

Peaks Island Taxi
News and Schedule Updates



(207) 518-0000

December Taxi Hours:

Peaks Island Taxi is operating **7 days a week, 7:30am to 8:30pm**.

The Taxi will continue to meet morning and afternoon ferries.

Please call by 6:00pm to schedule a pick-up from the 7:15pm or 8:15pm ferries: (207) 518-0000.

Holiday Updates:

The current plan for Christmas Day is to take the Taxi offline and give our drivers a well-deserved break. If those plans change, and there is service available, we will post status updates on Next Door, Carol's List, on the sign at Welch Street and at CBL.

Interested in driving for Peaks Island Taxi? We're on the lookout for a few new drivers to supplement our crack team. Contact Melanie Regan for furth details: **(207) 518-0000**.



PEAKS ISLAND LIONS CLUB



Thank you!

The Peaks Island Lions Club would like to again thank our fellow islanders and those from away who contributed to our scholarship fund-raising efforts this year. The family meals, and other events were quite successful and testimony to the ongoing generosity and support that is so much a part of the Peaks community.

So where do we stand?

During the past few Covid years our club has had to defer a lot of routine maintenance and some capital improvements. Also, and unfortunately due to lack of funds, we did not solicit nor do much in the way of grants to the community at large.

Expectations:

In 2022, while we are currently forecasting a better revenue outcome, we feel it necessary to take care of our deferred maintenance and some capital improvements with some of our hoped-for increase in revenue. We again expect to be able to fully fund our scholarship program and, if our revenues improve, again offer grants to our island community. Time will tell.

Be safe and Happy Holidays to all.

FRIENDS OF TEIA

The Friends of TEIA's annual appeal for your financial support has begun and continues through the winter months. The Friends of TEIA provides all year-round Peaks Island children with the opportunity to participate the summer programs offered by TEIA with no cost to the families. Last summer 27 children received camperships in the tennis, sailing kid's camp or our new tween program. Drop by any summer day to see all the enthusiasm coming from all the children as they learn new skills and make friendships from kids from afar. One parent said recently that not only did their son learn to sail but it is all about facing challenges and developing decision making skills.

To make this all happen each summer we encourage you to think about Friends of TEIA and what it offers your children or your neighbors' children and support us as you can.

Your tax-deductible contribution may be sent to FRIENDS OF TEIA P O Box 87 Peaks Island, ME 04108. If you have any questions or would like more information on Friends of TEIA, contact Stephane at sealights99@aol.com

Thank you for helping to make special summer memories and learning opportunities for our Peaks Island children.



**THE PEAKS ISLAND CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 23rd THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST FOR OUR WINTER BREAK**

During November, cars and trucks were brought into the preschool room and the Big Kids used pieces of cardboard and tubes to build tracks and race them. They spent some time learning about autumn, Thanksgiving and discussed what they are thankful for as well as making a "What Makes us Happy" poster for the wall. It was music month for the infants and toddlers. Musical instruments were brought into the classroom for everyone to play with while they sang songs and they used art supplies to make their very own drums and tambourines. Both classrooms enjoyed playing with the leaves and many days were spent raking them into piles and throwing them in the air.

Don't forget: If you are doing your holiday shopping online remember to use AmazonSmile. Same products at the same great price but a percentage of your purchase will be donated back to us. All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com and choose Peaks Island Children's Workshop as your charitable organization. We also have an Amazon Wish List filled with toys and supplies for the entire program:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1UVVUHE2DE3UR?ref=wl_share

PICW is accepting applications for part/full time care on our WAIT-LIST. Contact Katie at office@picw.org for applications. The Board of the PICW is always open to suggestions and communication from the community. Please contact us through Board Chair, Jennifer Eckel, at jgeckell@gmail.com.

PEAKS ISLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The countdown to the Winter Solstice is on as our students continue learning about how animals and plants adapt to colder temperatures and shorter daylight hours. Classes will be partnering with Maine Audubon's educational outreach this month to learn more about animals that remain active in winter, those that become dormant, and those that are Maine's three true hibernators (and none of them happen to be bears!) While we have enjoyed the unseasonably warm fall, our students appear ready for winter, and they also have been predicting the first snowfall. Our outdoor learning opportunities abound on the island throughout the winter so stay tuned for updates!

As we begin to wrap up 2021 we are thrilled that most of our students between the ages 5 through 11 received their first COVID-19 vaccines from public health nurses at the school on November 17th. We also are grateful for how well our students, staff, and families have remained vigilant in following our health and safety protocols that help keep our school community free from the virus and allow us to remain open for in-person teaching and learning.

All of us at PIES want to express our gratitude for Peaks Island's unwavering support, especially during these unprecedented times. We wish all islanders a happy and healthy holiday season!

Kelly Hasson, Teacher Leader

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Rector: Father Seamus Griesbach at 773-7746

Sunday Mass is at 8:30. All are welcome. For information about other services on the mainland, check www.portlandcatholic.org. For information concerning Baptism, Reconciliation & Marriage, please contact Father Seamus.

Christmas Eve and New Years Eve Masses are at 6:30 PM.

Centennial Pavers We have begun our Centennial Celebration (1923-2023) with a campaign to offer everyone in the Peaks Island community opportunities to purchase commemorative pavers for yourself, friends and loved ones.

+ Friend - Small paver \$125 up to two lines, 11 characters per line, sized 4.5" X 4.5".

+ Supporter - Medium paver \$250 up to three lines, 11 characters per line, sized 4.5" X 7".

+ Angel - Larger paver \$500 and up, up to four lines, 11 characters per line, sized 4.5" X 9".

Contact on line - <https://bit.ly/CentPaver>.

Borrow Free Medical Equipment

St. Christopher's and the Peaks Island Health Center have free medical equipment available on loan temporarily. Wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and other supplies are provided on a first come, first served basis at no charge. Borrowers are only asked when they think they will return it and also relieve the program of any liability.

For more information, call or text Lisa Penalver at 272-5962 or Chris Hoppin at 232-2908 or choppin@aol.com.

Ready To Help in A Disaster

Our Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trains with the Portland Fire Department to help in emergencies and disasters. Help is always available by calling 911. However, CERT does need more volunteers. For more information, please call Jay Desmond at 766-2088.



PIHC has returned to its regular schedule!

87 Central Avenue Peaks Island, Maine

Kitty Gilbert, FNP, sees patients Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Call (207) 874-2466 to schedule appointments or join the Health Center

Peaks Island Health Center

The ongoing pandemic shows how critical the Peaks Island Health Center is to our community.

When travel on Casco Bay Lines feels hard or high-risk, PIHC lets islanders receive the care they need without traveling to the mainland.

When seniors need a house call, our family nurse practitioner, Kitty Gilbert, is there.

When the Maine CDC recommended COVID and flu vaccination, PIHC organized multiple COVID vaccination clinics and a flu shot clinic that protected 100+ islanders.

Support the Peaks Island Health Center

Did you know that over 750 of your island neighbors have chosen the Peaks Island Health Center and MaineHealth as their primary care provider? Consider joining them this year and enjoy the convenience of high quality, community-based healthcare close to home.

Our annual appeal will arrive in mailboxes soon. Please consider making a gift to keep this critical island institution thriving in these uncertain times.

Find the latest news at peaksislandhealthcenter.org

American Legion Post 142

Our American Legion Post 142 is looking for more veterans to join our Island Post and also serve in leadership positions. Our current Post Adjutant and Finance Officer have served for many years and are ready to retire soon.

These volunteer positions are critical for Peaks Island's Post 142 to continue to operate as a part of our community.

The web address for The American Legion is MyLegion.org and then click on Join or Renew. FMI, please contact Fred O'Keefe at 404-229-4285 or fokeefe@peaksisland.us.

Our outside lounge opens for refreshments beginning at 4 PM from Wednesdays to Sundays. Musicians gather on Sundays from 4 to 6 PM, weather permitting. All are welcome.

The 'Greeks on Peaks' food truck offers takeout food on most weekends. Check their sign at the Post on Welch Street for details.

PORTLAND

PARKS, RECREATION & FACILITIES

DECEMBER 2021 - PEAKS ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

For more info to schedule or reserve the Peaks Island Community Center 766-2970

Annual Peaks Island Tree Lighting at the Peaks Turn Around

December 4 from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Ring in the 2021 Holidays at the Annual Peaks Tree Lighting. We will sing carols with island musicians and decorate the Peaks Island "living tree" with handmade pine cone bird feeders made by the Peaks After the Bell Recreation kids. Santa Claus will join us at the Peaks Turn Around with the help of Peaks Dept. of Public Works and the Portland Police and Fire Departments. Delicious cookies and hot chocolate will be served following the tree lighting compliments of the Peaks Cafe.

Lions Club Annual Peaks Island Children's Christmas Event

Dec. 22 - Peaks Island Community Center

The Lions Club Annual Peaks Children's Christmas Event is open to all island children aged birth through grade 5. Each child will visit with Santa Claus, be given a gift and have a quick photo op ... to keep things moving along. If your child or grandchild does not attend the Peaks Island Elementary School or the Children's Workshop, you need to sign your child up for this event on the Lions Club Christmas with Santa Claus - 2021 Sign up Sheet.

The Lions Club Christmas with Santa Sign up Sheet is available thru December 4th at the following Peaks establishments - *Peaks Cafe, Peaks Library and Hannigan's Market*. Signing up your child will assure that a gift will be available for your child and be age appropriate.

All children attending the event must be accompanied by an adult.

Age groupings for December 22nd are: 10:30 am - Workshop kids and signups

1:00 pm - Grades Pre-K thru Grades 2

2:30 pm - Grades 3 thru 5

For more info contact: Steve Anderson at 860-707-6251 or Diane Ricciotti at 766-2970

Silver Sneakers - Mondays & Thursdays 9:30 am -10:30 am

We are featuring several Silver Sneakers exercise programs that focus on improving balance and strengthening. Open to all. Free

Weekly Thursday Knitting, Craft & Chat Group 10:45 am - 11:45 am

Please join us to share our love of knitting and all creative projects and interests. Knitters, painters, crafters and artists are welcome to join us on any Thursday.

Come join us and bring your favorite project! Open to all. Free